

## Claims Amendment

I claim:

1. (currently amended) A hand tool for cutting a strap, such as a cable tie, that leaves a smooth rounded end on the cut strap, the tool comprising:

- two handles which are connected together in a single plane at a pivot point by means of a pivot connector;
- mating cutting jaws carried by said handles; wherein one of said cutting jaw comprises a semi-circular groove cutting edge and the other of said cutting jaws comprise a semi-circular plunger adapted to move into said groove when said cutting jaws are moved against each other; wherein one of said jaws includes an opening enabling a free end of said strap to pass through said opening. ~~each said cutting jaw comprises a rounded cutting edge; wherein when said cutting jaws are urged towards each other by said handles, said cutting jaws cut through said strap to leave a smooth round end on the cut strap.~~

2. (currently amended) A hand tool in accordance with claim 1, wherein additional semi-cone cutting edges are located across each jaw near the pivot point ~~said cutting jaws are located near the pivot point, and wherein said handles further comprise extended gripping jaws for gripping said strap.~~

3. (canceled)

4. (original) A hand tool in accordance with claim 1, further comprising bias means for urging said handles apart.

5. (canceled)

6. (canceled)

7. (new) A hand tool for cutting a strap, such as a cable tie, that leaves a smooth round end on the cut strap, the tool comprising;

-two handles which are connected together in a single plain, at a pivot point by means of a pivot connector,

-mating cutting jaws carried by said handles, wherein each said cutting jaw comprises a semi-cone shaped cutting edge adapted to mesh when said cutting jaws are moved against each other, wherein one of said jaws includes an opening enabling a free end of said strap to pass through said opening.

8. (new) A hand tool in accordance with claim 7, wherein additional semi-cone cutting edges are located across each jaw near the pivot point.

9. (new) A hand tool for cutting a strap, such as a cable tie, that leaves a smooth rounded end on the cut strap, the tool comprising:

- two handles which are connected together in a single plain at a pivot point by means of a pivot connector,

- mating cutting jaws wherein semi-cone cutting edges are located across each jaw near the pivot point and wherein the jaws are extended beyond the cutting edges for gripping the cable tie.